Lost Dutchman State Park Dine With Your Dog Hike Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Hike Description:

This hike will travel north along the Jacob's Crosscut trail #58 in the Tonto National Forest from the Treasure Loop Trailhead, Cholla parking lot, in Lost Dutchman State Park to the Crosscut Trailhead at First Water Road. We shall encounter a variety of desert plants such as Saguaro, Prickly Pear, and Jojoba Bush to name a few. We may see a variety of reptiles including Desert Spiny Lizards, Ornate Tree Lizards and Greater Earless Lizards. Of course there may be a rattlesnake, but chances are slim as most snakes seek to avoid human contact. This is an easy hike with little elevation gain on a very well maintained trail.

The Route:

- Treasure Loop Trailhead, Cholla parking lot, GPS: N 33*27.671', W 111*28.650'
- Walk Treasure Loop Trail east through Forest Service boundary gate to Jacob's Crosscut Trail Junction. Continue on Jacob's Crosscut Trail North to Crosscut Trailhead at First Water Road, GPS: N 33*28.266'; W 111*28.178'.

Elevation:

Treasure Loop Trailhead, Cholla Parking Lot: 2102' Crosscut Trailhead, First Water Road: 2105' Maximum Elevation: 2263' Total Elevation Gain: 160'

Distance:

3.8 miles round trip

Duration:

3 hours

Meeting Time:

11:00 AM

Helpful Hints:

- Pack lunch for you and your dog. We will picnic at the Crosscut Trailhead on Water User's Road.
- Bring enough water for both you and your pet.
- Wear sturdy close-toed shoes or hiking boots
- Pets must be leashed in Lost Dutchman State Park. There are no leash laws in the Tonto National Forest, but please be considerate of other hikers and know your dog before allowing them to run
- Stay on the trail as bushwhacking can cause unnecessary damage to plants and small animal
- Please uphold "Leave No Trace" practices, including picking up after your dog.*
- Ask lots of questions.
- Experience the beauty and mystery of the Sonoran desert!

*"Leave No Trace" http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leave No Trace

- 1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
 Dispose of Waste Properly
- 4. Leave What You Find
- 5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
- 6. Respect Wildlife7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors